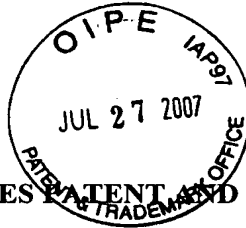


Docket No. 264199US0PCT



*Itw*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yoshifumi SUGITO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/521,100

GAU: 1723

FILED: January 13, 2005

EXAMINER:

FOR: DESALTING PROCESS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the reference(s) cited in the attached Supplementary European Search Report and listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed reference(s) are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language reference(s).
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030.

Respectfully submitted,

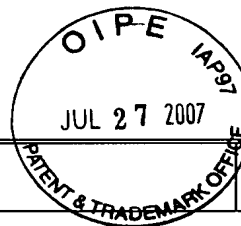
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Form PTO 1449  
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
264199US0PCTSERIAL NO.  
10/521,100

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT  
Yoshifumi SUGITO, et al.FILING DATE  
January 13, 2005GROUP  
1723

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,083,781	04/11/1978	Franklin E. CONGER			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
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	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AO	2002-316151	10/29/2002	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AP	4-61983	02/27/1992	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AQ	WO 2004/013048 A2	02/12/2004	WIPO		
	AR	2 818 967	07/05/2002	France		X
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

☐ Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.